

SEP 16 2004

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
 EXAMINING GROUP 1765

PATENT
 5298-06900/PM01027

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
 Schwarz

Serial No. 10/074,888

Filed: February 13, 2002

For: **REDUCING DEFECT FORMATION
 WITHIN AN ETCHED
 SEMICONDUCTOR TOPOGRAPHY**

Group Art Unit: 1765
 Examiner: Deo, D.

Atty. Dkt. No. 5298-06900

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AMENDMENT: RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED JULY 23, 2004

Mail Stop AF
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir/ Madam:

This paper is submitted in response to the final Office Action dated July 23, 2004 to further
 highlight reasons why the application is in condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.